Issue 4/2019

Focus on stamps
The Collector's Magazine

Social diversity
+
Christmas
+ Typical Swiss countryside – Val Mora
+ much more

SWISS POST

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Title image: Members of Swiss Post's RAINBOW and MOSAICO networks
Photo: Thomas Rathgeb

Dear Reader

As a new member of the Stamps & Philately product management team, I would like to welcome you to this year's final issue. It is a tremendous pleasure for me to have a creative impact on Switzerland's smallest ambassador and our cultural heritage.

I can remember like it was yesterday how, as a child, I would always persuade my mother to let me stick on the stamps. How I would proudly add new stamp motifs, from both Switzerland and abroad, to my stamp collection. And all the moments when I had the opportunity to discover and discuss stamps with all sorts of people, young and old. I remember being fascinated by all the visual worlds I encountered, the stories they conveyed and everything they taught me.
Now I've changed sides. As of this year, I have been channelling my passion into supervising current and upcoming stamp projects. From project to project, I am once again discovering the childlike joy of being enthralled and enthused by even completely unfamiliar topics, and I am astonished by the creative potential that can be brought to life on something as small yet challenging as a stamp.

So, I invite you to immerse yourself in subjects as varied as the Olympics, social diversity and Christmas spirit, as well as in our many other stamp motifs.

Regain your sense of joy, curiosity and enthusiasm and experience another piece of Switzerland with this issue. After all, stamps are a piece of cultural heritage that tell us stories, enrich our knowledge and convey the sender's appreciation for the person receiving their letter or card.

Thank you for your loyalty

Silvan Andres
Product Manager
Stamps & Philately

A thank you to our subscribers

This year, Swiss Post would once again like to thank all stamp and cancellation subscribers for their long-standing loyalty. This year's folder contains the original "Traditional Swiss costumes" miniature sheet from issue 3/19 dated 5 September 2019. The stamps feature four traditional costumes from Lötschental, Valle Verzasca, Engadin and the Canton of Fribourg.

What if you don't yet have a subscription, but would like to receive this exclusive collector's item? Sign up for a stamp subscription now, and you'll receive the folder as a gift!

Our Contact Center would be happy to advise you.
Tel.: +41 848 66 55 44
E-mail: stamps@swisspost.ch

Key

I	Issue date for stamps/postal stationery
F	Focus on stamps (stamp magazine)
TF/E	Trade fair/exhibition
SS+	Sales stand with cancellation service

The right to make updates and changes is reserved. The latest version can always be found at swisspost.ch/stamps.

Focus on stamps publication details 4/2019

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Event calendar

Month	Key	Date	Location	Event
October	TF/E	24–26.10	Sindelfingen	International Stamp Show
November	TF/E	8–10.11	Luxembourg	Multilateral Luxembourg
	TF/E	7–9.11	Paris	73rd Salon Philatélique d'Automne
	I	14.11		**Issue date**
	TF/E	22–24.11	Verona	Veronafil 2019
	SS+	28.11–1.12	Bulle	Stamp Day 2019
December	SS+	12–13.12	Berne-Bethlehem	Special Christmas post office

Issuing programme 1/2020

Issue date: 5 March 2020 / Featured in: Focus on stamps 1/2020

No.	Value	Description
1	**1.00**	**Special stamp** 100 years Swiss Federation of livestock farming of the Hérens breed
1	**1.00**	**Special stamp** 125 years Swiss Football Association
2	**1.85**	**Special stamps** Ice Hockey World Championship in Switzerland
	0.85	Puck
	1.00	Team
1	**1.50**	**Special stamp with surcharge** 100th anniversary of Pro Infirmis

No.	Value	Description
1	**1.00**	**Special stamp** 150 years Swiss Fire Brigade Association
1	**1.00**	**Special stamp** 2000 years Solothurn town
1	**1.00**	**Special stamp** 125 years National Library
1	**1.00**	**Miniature sheet** 900 years Engelberg Monastery
1	**0.85**	**Special stamp** International Year of Plant Health

Subject to change. Status: August 2019

Christmas stamps 2020 – you choose!

From 4 October 2019, you will have the opportunity to help choose next year's Christmas stamps. Three artists were commissioned to design four motifs each on the subject of "wintry moments". Choose your favourite set now at **postshop.ch/focus-on-stamps-online**.

© iStock

Listening

Bringing happiness

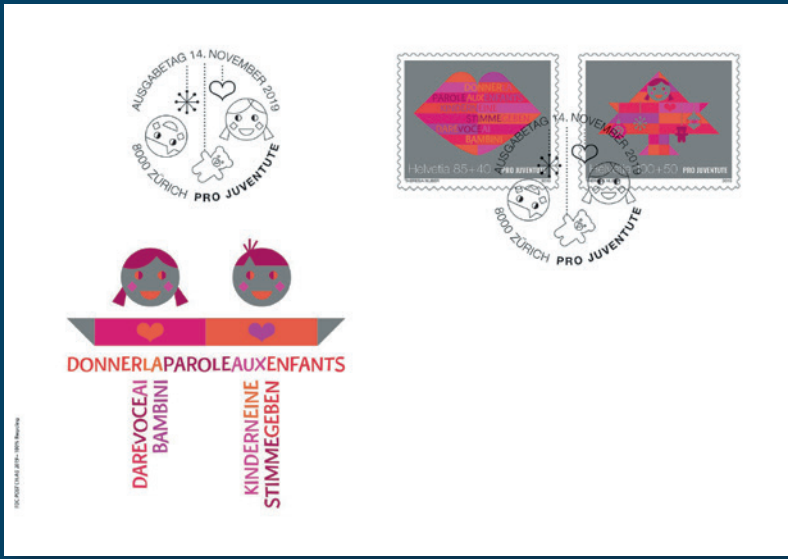
Pro Juventute – 30 years children's rights

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was developed as an international human rights instrument and came into force in 1989. For the first time in history, children were recognized as autonomous beings.

Switzerland has also committed to ensuring observance of children's rights, implemented through three elements: the state, parents and children. For example, specific rights have been incorporated into Swiss legislation concerning protection of children and adults.
As children are particularly vulnerable and cannot assert their rights on their own, the Convention on the Rights of the Child contains particular requirements in addition to general human rights. Children require special protection and care, as well as adults who ensure that they are involved in any matters and decisions which concern them. Children should be listened to and their opinions taken into account when decisions are made. These requirements are important in ensuring that parents perform their duty of care and help their children to exercise their rights. "Giving children a voice" is also the common thread running through the two Pro Juventute special stamps designed by Theresia Nuber.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A275 150	A275 550	2.75
Set of blocks of four	A275 160	A275 560	11.00
Sheet of 10 stamps 0.85+0.40 Listening 1.00+0.50 Bringing happiness	 A275 361 A275 362	 A275 381 A275 382	 12.50 15.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A275 580	3.65
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A275 600	4.55
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A275 630	12.80
Unstamped cover C6	A275 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A275 640	A267 650	3.55
Stamp booklets			
6 self-adhesive stamps at CHF 0.85+0.40 with the "Listening" motif and 6 self-adhesive stamps at CHF 1.00+0.50 with the "Bringing happiness" motif	A275 300	A275 800	16.50



Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 7.11.2019 to 30.6.2020 or while stocks last Branches: from 14.11.2019 to 31.1.2020 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 14.11.2019
Printing	Offset, 4-colour, and silver; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheet: 82×198 mm (open), 82×99 mm (folded), 5 rows of 2 stamps Stamp booklet: 254×62 mm (open), 86×62 mm (folded)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	Serpentine cut (4 sides)
Design	Theresia Nuber, Zurich

Interview with the designer Theresia Nuber

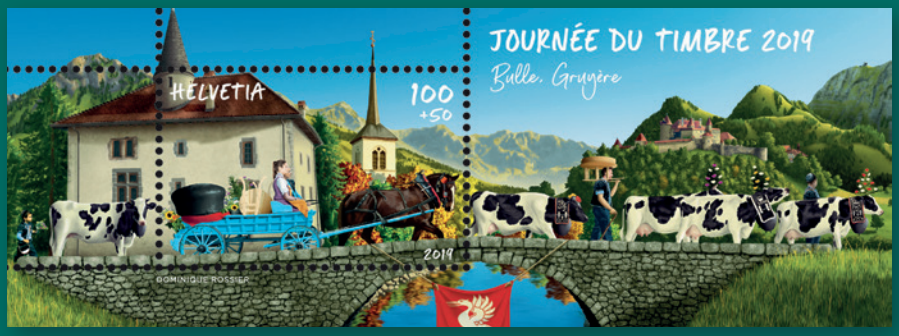
© Julia Brütsch

Ms Nuber, we know this isn't your first time designing a stamp. But did you still encounter any challenges when designing this particular stamp?
The challenges are essentially always the same: you have to capture the essence of your subject on a very small scale – in other words, you have to reduce the content and the visuals. It is also important to develop an individual visual imagery for the stamp, so that it can act as a mini-mini-mini-poster. Take the "Giving children a voice" stamp, for instance, where I had the challenge of stylizing a child's mouth. When I was fine-tuning the visuals on the two stamps, I had to simplify the image of the mouth so that there was room for text in three languages. This was not easy, because I felt this no longer did the mouth justice. Fortunately, you can also see a sort of "heart" or two "wings" in the mouth as well, which perhaps makes up for that.

"Giving children a voice" is the main message of this stamp. How did you go about designing the stamp?
The first thing I always do as a designer is get to grips with the subject, so I read Unicef's publications on the subject of children's rights and researched existing Unicef stamps from around the world. I then scribbled down any ideas that sprang to mind on a piece of paper, in the conventional fashion. I sought more inspiration by flicking through publications on art, fashion, interior design, graphic design, product design, nature and so on, and came across the image of a priest's robes in purple, pink and shades of red. This instantly gave me an idea of how the motif of giving a mouth and a voice should look. I had a clear image in my head of how to go about designing the stamp, just as I did for the Christmas motif. Given I didn't feel this "stamp pair" was very typical of Pro Juventute, I came up with other design ideas in a child-friendly style. My own childhood drawings were also a source of inspiration.
Incidentally, it is always fascinating to see how our lives sometimes come full circle: when I was six, I won first prize in a Pro Juventute drawing competition. The originality of these stamps, which are fairly unusual for Pro Juventute, won out in the end.

Will you also be using the stamps yourself, and why?
Of course I'll be using the stamps myself, because I want to support Pro Juventute, children and teenagers. They will also give my mail a personal touch.

Miniature sheet
with surcharge



Stamp Day 2019 Bulle

Following the 2015 event, Philatelica'19 will be the second Stamp Day to be organized by the Bulle philately society in recent years. In addition to level II and III exhibitions, an international competition will also be part of the event.

As the impressive information on the website philatelica.ch illustrates, the Bulle philately society is extremely active. Emboldened by the success of Timbr@phil'15, enthusiastic preparations are now being made for another event. So far, it is proving a great success: the Stamp Day will be held at the "Espace Gruyère" from 28 November to 1 December under the patronage of the Union of Swiss Philatelists' Societies (USPS). A large number of exhibitors are expected to travel from all over Europe to attend the monothematic competition.
The special stamp created by the highly experienced Vaud designer Dominique Rossier depicts a typical scene of cattle descending from their Alpine pastures in the autumn. In the local dialect, this is known as "la rindya", after the moment when the Alpine farmers have to return ("rendre") the cattle to their owners. With over 23,000 inhabitants, Bulle itself is now quite urban, but is still seen as the regional center of the dairy industry and livestock breeding. Thanks to its castle and the "Musée Gruérien", the town also plays an important role in tourism in the Gruyère region.

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Special sheet with surcharge (1.00+0.50)	A279 315	A279 815	1.50
Covers			
Miniature sheet on first-day cover C6		A279 580	2.40
Cover without miniature sheet C6	A279 701		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A279 640	A279 650	2.30

Philatelica'19 stamp exhibition, levels II and III

Location: Espace Gruyère center, Bulle

Opening times of exhibition, stamp exchange and sales stand with cancellation service (exhibition days listed below)
Thursday, 28.11.2019, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, 29.11.2019, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (no stamp exchange)
Saturday, 30.11.2019, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, 1.12.2019, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

During the hours indicated, Swiss Post will run a sales stand with a cancellation service. The special cancellation depicted here will be used. Please send individual documents to the following address by 23 November 2019 at the latest:
Post CH Ltd, PostalNetwork, Retail Logistics, Cancellation Service, "TdBM2019", Werkstrasse 41, 3250 Lyss, Switzerland.

Autograph session
On Saturday, 30 November 2019 from 10 a.m. until 12 noon, there will be an autograph session with the designer of the miniature sheet, Dominique Rossier.

Further information can be found at philatelica.ch.

Miniature sheet on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 7.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last Bulle 1 and 2 branches: from 14.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 14.11.2019
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France
Sizes	Stamps: 36.5×23.5 mm Miniature sheet: 105×42.5 mm
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	14¼
Design	Dominique Rossier, Puidoux

The postal card depicts a typical scene of cattle descending from their Alpine pastures in the Gruyère region, a tradition known as "la rindya".

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Postal stationery			
"Stamp Day 2019 Bulle" postal card, face value CHF 1.50 (1.00+0.50) + 1.00 for the card	A279 841	A279 846	2.50

Special cancellation

USPS cover with special cancellation

Product	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Special cover		
Union of Swiss Philatelic Societies (USPS) special cover C6, franked with the "Stamp Day 2019 Bulle" miniature sheet and cancelled with the special cancellation "1630 Bulle 28.11–1.12.2019"	A279 581	4.00
The special cover is not supplied with the subscription.		

Special stamp

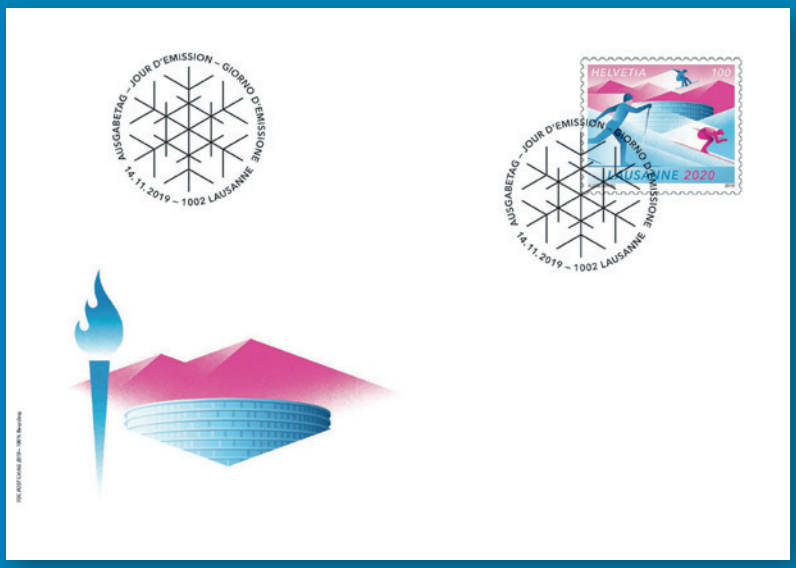
Winter Youth Olympic Games 2020

26 years after being designated capital of the Olympic movement, Lausanne itself is to become an Olympic city. From 9 to 22 January 2020, it will host the third Winter Youth Olympics, the second biggest winter multisport event.

Around 1,880 athletes aged 15 to 18 from over 70 nations are expected to compete. The competitions in 16 disciplines will be held at various locations in Switzerland and France, but the center of the Games will be Lausanne. This is where the opening, awards and closing ceremonies will all be held. The mascot Yodli was designed by students from the Ecole romande d'arts et communication (ERACOM), contemporaries of the athletes.
At the heart of the Games are the Olympic values: excellence (outstanding sporting performance), respect (for other people and the environment) and friendship (cultural exchange). But Swissness also plays a major role. Gender equality and sustainability will also be exemplified. The new development for the Olympic village will become the VORTEX student accommodation after the Games, and the Vaudoise Arena, the new multisport facility at Espace Malley, was already planned long beforehand and will continue to be used afterwards.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A281 150	A281 550	1.00
Block of four	A281 160	A281 560	4.00
Sheetlet of 8 stamps	A281 311	A281 351	8.00
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A281 580	1.90
Block of four on first-day cover C6		A281 630	4.90
Sheetlet on first-day cover C5		A281 590	9.20
Unstamped covers/sheetlets			
C6 (162×114 mm)	A281 700		0.90
C5 (229×162 mm)	A281 701		1.20
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A281 640	A281 650	1.80



Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 7.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last Branches: from 14.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 14.11.2019
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheetlet: 192×115 mm (2 rows of 4 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Aurel Märki, Berne

© Dag Oliver / Lillehammer 2016

The Youth Olympic Games, held every four years, are divided into Summer and Winter Games, and complement the traditional Olympic Games. The history of the Youth Olympic Games does not go back that far, however. The very first Summer Games were held as recently as 2010, and the Winter Games didn't make their debut until 2012. Lausanne will now play host to the third edition of the Winter Games from 9 to 22 January 2020.
All competitions are accessible free of charge.

www.lausanne2020.sport

Crowd of people

Community puzzle

Social diversity

50 years ago, homosexual and transgender people in New York made a stand against the police for the first time, in a series of demonstrations that would become known as the Stonewall riots. This event inspired Swiss Post's internal RAINBOW network to issue a special stamp.

The Stonewall riots sparked worldwide movements which today are known under the banner of LGBTI+. This acronym stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex, with the plus sign signifying "queer". At Swiss Post, there are two networks which tackle diversity issues: MOSAICO (linguistic and cultural diversity) and RAINBOW (LGBTI+). This means Swiss Post is a true reflection of our society: not only are there four languages and cultures in Switzerland, but also countless subcultures of all kinds.
In light of the social relevance of this topic, the postal organizations of Switzerland and Liechtenstein decided to create a joint stamp issue. The Swiss motif with a face value of CHF 1 focuses on the coexistence of various lifestyles, portraying them all fitting together like a jigsaw puzzle.
The CHF 0.85 motif from Liechtensteinische Post depicts the cultural and sexual diversity of a colourfully illustrated crowd of people.

Interview with Simon Graf, Co-Chair of Swiss Post's RAINBOW network

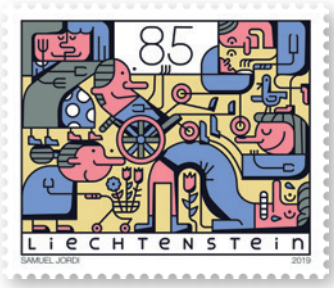
Mr Graf, could you give us a quick description of what your network does and what its aims are?
We are a self-organized, internal network within Swiss Post that, first of all, uses all sorts of events and information sessions to bring together lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees, as well as anyone else who's interested. The aim is to create a network across all units. However, we don't just interact within Swiss Post, but also with other companies and LGBT networks. We also initiate other projects. A good example of this would be championing the stamp marking 50 years since the Stonewall riots.

Why is it so important to have this kind of network in the working environment?
I feel the subject of LGBT+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) is still far too absent in the workplace. We try to raise awareness of the subject so that it can be discussed more openly, and so that LGBT+ issues are no longer taboo – not just in private, but in the workplace as well.

Where did the idea for a stamp marking 50 years since the Stonewall riots stem from?
The idea came from the network's core team. Other countries have already released stamps on the topic of diversity, such as Finland and Germany. In the end, we felt the anniversary marking 50 years since the Stonewall riots was the perfect opportunity to bring this idea to Swiss Post.

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 7.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last Branches: from 14.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 14.11.2019
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein
Sizes	Stamps: 28×33 mm and 33×28 mm Sheet: 140×194 mm and 194×140 mm (5 rows of 4 stamps and 4 rows of 5 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼ : 13½ and 13½ : 13¼
Design	Luigi Olivadoti, Zurich (Crowd of people) Samuel Jordi, Winterthur (Community puzzle)



Liechtenstein stamps

Liechtenstein first-day cancellation

Special regulations apply to cancellation orders. These can be found in "PhilaNews 11/2019" at swisspost.ch/stamp-publications.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Items with the Swiss stamps

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A277 150	A277 550	1.85
Set of blocks of four	A277 160	A277 560	7.40
Sheet of 20 stamps 0.85 Crowd of people 1.00 Community puzzle	 A277 111 A277 112	 A277 511 A277 512	 17.00 20.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A277 580	2.75
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A277 600	3.65
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A277 630	9.20
Unstamped cover C6	A277 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A277 640	A277 650	2.65

Items with the stamps from both countries

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Liechtenstein set*	A278 151		1.85
Liechtenstein sheet of 20 stamps* 0.85 Community puzzle 1.00 Crowd of people	 A278 101 A278 102		 17.00 20.00
Covers			
First-day cover C6 with the stamps from both countries		A278 581	4.60
Folder/collection sheet			
Folder/collection sheet A5 with the stamps from both countries	A278 641	A278 651	4.50

* These products are not supplied with the subscription.

Note: The Liechtenstein stamps are valid for postage in Liechtenstein only. No consignments may be franked with these stamps in Switzerland.

Maximum cards

Social diversity

Maximum card set (Liechtenstein product)

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Maximum cards			
Set of 2 maximum cards, A6 format, featuring the “Crowd of people” and “Community puzzle” motifs, with the corresponding CH/LI special stamps and the respective first-day cancellations		A278 851	5.70
This product is not supplied with the subscription.			

Card game

Animal stamp memory game

Animal and stamp lovers can now start playing the popular memory game with oversized stamps.

20 different animal stamps are looking for their twins. Whoever finds the most correct matches is the winner. This colourful party game involving stamp-shaped cards is fun for young and old players alike. The 40 cards (56 × 56 mm) come protected in a handy slip lid box (117 × 117 × 16 mm).

The perfect Christmas gift for the little ones.

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Animal stamp memory game	A267 990		18.00

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Gift

Snowflake

Candle

Star

Christmas

The 2019 Christmas stamps not only reflect traditional themes, but also showcase another interesting aspect of the Christian tradition – the colourfulness and grandeur of church windows.

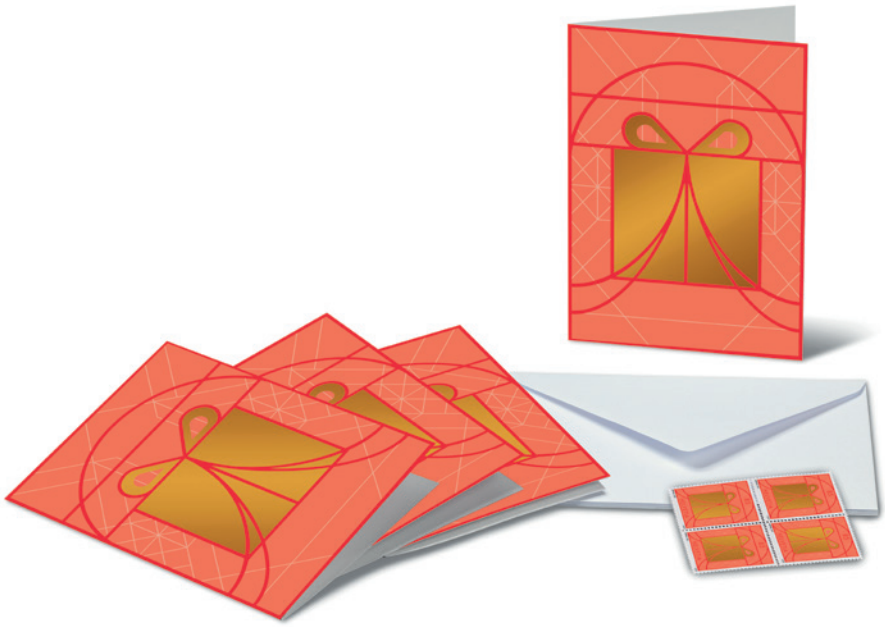
The four special stamps depict typical Christmas motifs: a gift, a snowflake, a candle and a star. But more unusually, the designer drew inspiration from church window geometry for his creation. Church window? In the Middle Ages, it wasn't yet possible to make large panes of glass. Instead, Gothic cathedrals had to be fitted with leaded windows. Smaller pieces of glass were held together with lead frames to form a whole.
The designer has translated this technique into a modern visual language using fresh colours and a generously-proportioned graphic. On each stamp, the geometry created by the design can be seen as an individual line grid in the background. The colours chosen add an extra brilliance to the stamps. This effect is further enhanced by the use of gold and silver pigment, which gives the stamps an even more festive feel and added elegance.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

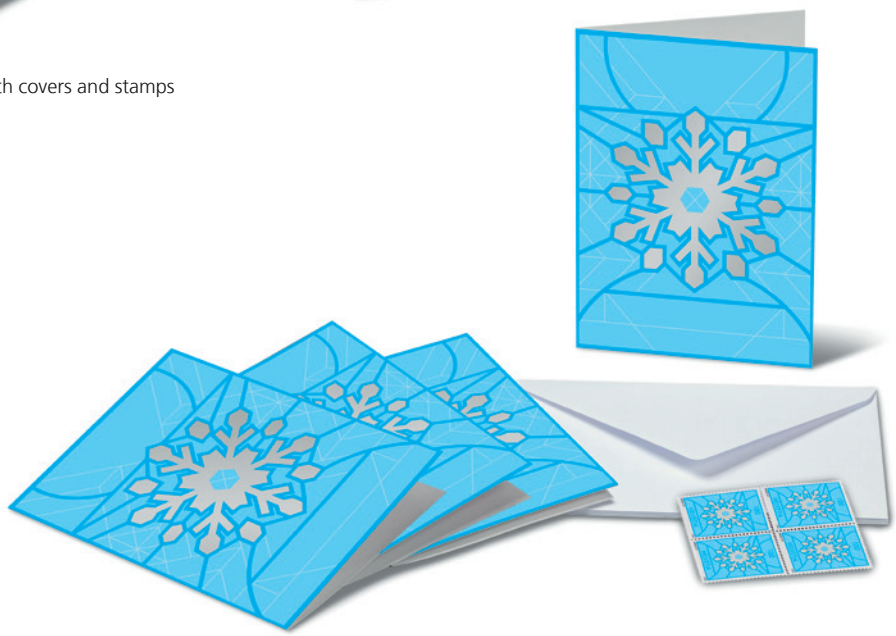
Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A280 150	A280 550	5.35
Set of blocks of four	A280 160	A280 560	21.40
Sheet of 10 stamps			
0.85 Gift	A280 361	A280 381	8.50
1.00 Snowflake	A280 362	A280 382	10.00
1.50 Candle	A280 363	A280 383	15.00
2.00 Star	A280 364	A280 384	20.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A280 580	6.25
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A280 600	8.95
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A280 630	25.00
Unstamped cover C6	A280 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A280 640	A280 650	6.15
Christmas cards with covers and stamps			
Set of 4 A6 folded cards with the "Gift" motif, 4 C6 covers and 4 Christmas stamps with the "Gift" motif at CHF 0.85 (non-affixed)	A280 951		9.20
Set of 4 A6 folded cards with the "Snowflake" motif, 4 C6 covers and 4 Christmas stamps with the "Snowflake" motif at CHF 1.00 (non-affixed)	A280 952		9.80
The Christmas cards are not supplied with the subscription.			

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 7.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last Branches: from 14.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 14.11.2019
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 28×33 mm Sheet: 82×228 mm (open), 82×114 mm (folded), 5 rows of 2 stamps
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	Serpentine cut (4 sides)
Design	Manuel Ort, Berne



Christmas cards with the "Gift" motif with covers and stamps



Christmas cards with the "Snowflake" motif with covers and stamps

Other products

Christmas

This year's multilateral product contains a total of 17 original 2019 Christmas stamps from Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Germany, Austria and Luxembourg.

The multilateral Christmas set can be ordered from 4 October 2019 by visiting postshop.ch or by calling the Contact Center (+41 848 66 55 44) and is not included in the enclosed order form.

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Multilateral Christmas set			
2019 issue, contains stamps from the following countries: Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Germany, Austria and Luxembourg. Items available only in German.	A280 990		19.80
This product is not supplied with the subscription.			

The traditional Christmas market in Wienacht-Tobel is held on the first Sunday of Advent. Swiss Post is issuing a special cancellation to mark this event.
There will be no sales stand at the event. You can send your slips with a self-addressed and franked reply envelope to the following address:
Post CH Ltd
PostalNetwork
Cancellation Service
"Wienacht-Tobel"
Werkstrasse 41
3250 Lyss
Switzerland

Closing date:
2 December 2019

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Special covers			
Special cover C6, franked with the "Snowflake" special stamp at CHF 1.00 and cancelled with the special cancellation "9405 Wienacht-Tobel 1.12.2019"		A280 991	1.90
Special cover without stamp C6	A280 992		0.90
The special covers are not supplied with the subscription.			

Bethlehem

The Christmas card and cover feature another illustration by designer Manuel Ort. The special cancellation was designed to match it.

Bethlehem special post office

For the final time

Date: 12 to 13 December 2019
Location: Bethlehem special post office, "im Tscharni" cafe and community center, Waldmannstrasse 17, 3027 Berne, Switzerland
Getting there: Tram no. 8 to the Tscharnergut stop

Opening times:
Thursday, 12.12.2019 9 a.m. to 12 noon / 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, 13.12.2019 9 a.m. to 12 noon / 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

A letter box will also be set up from 12 December (9 a.m.) to 13 December (5 p.m.). Letter mail items that have been sent and franked with valid postage stamps will also be cancelled. Please note the applicable face values – also for registered mail. **They must be sent with a franked envelope to the following address by 12 December 2019:** PostalNetwork, Cancellation Service, "Bethlehem", Werkstrasse 41, 3250 Lyss, Switzerland.
Please enclose a franked, addressed envelope for returning unaddressed items for cancellation.
Thank you.

Berne-Bethlehem special post office to open for the last time in 2019

The traditional Christmas post office "Christmas Bethlehem" in Berne-Bethlehem is this year opening its doors for the final time. This is due to falling demand and relatively high organizational costs. There is, however, no cause for concern, because you can still decorate your Christmas post and collector's products with this special cancellation in the future. Swiss Post's Cancellation Service will continue to cancel any letter mail consignments it receives that have been franked with valid stamps (except for express items).
On request, stamp impressions can also be applied to loose stamps from valid issues. Please send consignments and stamps in a franked envelope to the following address: PostalNetwork, Cancellation Service, "Bethlehem", Werkstrasse 41, 3250 Lyss, Switzerland. Please enclose a pre-franked, addressed envelope for returning unaddressed items for cancellation.

Special cancellation

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Special covers			
"Bethlehem" special cover C6, franked with the "Snowflake" special stamp at CHF 1.00 and cancelled with the special cancellation "3027 Berne 27 Bethlehem 12–13 December 2019"		A280 141	1.90
Special cover without stamp C6	A280 142		0.90
The special covers are not supplied with the subscription.			
Christmas card			
2019 Christmas card, without stamp, A6, four pages, inside print de, fr, it, en	A280 143		0.90
The Christmas card is not supplied with the subscription.			

Miniature sheet

Typical Swiss countryside – Val Mora

It can't be reached by car. It's quite an effort to get there on foot or by bike, too. But it's well worth it: the Val Mora is a breathtaking, rugged wilderness that possesses a unique splendour. Its beauty is captured on the miniature sheet.

The Val Mora is at the heart of the second stage of the Alpine Bike route, which travels from Scuol to Aigle in 16 stages. The second stage starts in Cierfs (Val Müstair) and finishes at Livigno in Italy at the end of the day, crossing two passes along the way. The photographer for the miniature sheet discovered the valley by bike herself and was immediately reminded of the Canadian wilderness. In her work, she aims to convey the unspoiled, remote and expansive nature of this typically Swiss landscape. Apart from Alpine cattle, mountain bikers and a few hikers, you won't find anything in the Val Mora even in summer – which is exactly what she seeks to express in her photography. The scenery around Döss Radond in the east of the valley was captured. This is the photographer's favourite view and represents her fondness for "green ruggedness".

You can find further interesting information about the Alpine Bike route and hikes through the Val Mora at: **switzerlandmobility.ch**

The Val Mora landscape is captivating and is a great place for hikes and mountain biking.

Miniature sheet on first-day cover E6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 7.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last Branches Zernez and Müstair: from 14.11.2019 to 31.12.2020 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 14.11.2019
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 77×43 mm Miniature sheet: 105 × 70 mm
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13½ : 13
Photography	Isabelle Bühler, Thun

This valley in the Canton of Graubünden is reminiscent of the Canadian wilderness.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Miniature sheet	A276 315	A276 815	1.00
Covers			
Miniature sheet on first-day cover E6		A276 580	2.00
Covers without miniature sheet C6 (162×114 mm) E6 (200×140 mm)	 A276 700 A276 701		 0.90 1.00
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A276 640	A276 650	1.80

A journey through Switzerland: the 2019 year book

The collection featured in the year book of Swiss stamps takes us on a journey through Switzerland – and far beyond its borders.

The year book, which features every stamp from 2019, presents Switzerland in all its glorious diversity. In the northwest of Switzerland, the special stamp takes us to the Basel Carnival. The stamp motifs dedicated to the Fête des Vignerons, which is held just once a generation, take us on a journey to the Canton of Vaud, and the special stamps created by land artist Ivo Moosberger depict works of art in the Cantons of Uri, Ticino, Graubünden and Zug.
The multi-award-winning poster designer Claude Kuhn takes us beyond Swiss borders, with his designs spanning the entire natural world. And the first manned Moon landing, which celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 2019, takes us even further afield. This journey also includes many other stops at a wide range of events. One stamp, for instance, celebrates the art of brewing beer, while another is dedicated to calligraphy, which is enjoying a comeback and thriving alongside the hand lettering trend. Along with the 55 stamps and a black print, you will also find a total of 121 pages containing fascinating background information on the stamp motifs. This book is a perfect record of our times – for you, a loved one or perhaps as a birthday present.

Square, but not proportional
Quadratisch, aber nicht proportional
Carré, toutes proportions gardées
Quadrati, ma non proporzionali

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Year book of Swiss stamps 2019	A283 830	A283 831	CHF 69.00

Colourful stamps

Issue set with single stamps 4/2019

Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 4/2019

Annual and special products	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Issue set with single stamps 4/2019			
The single stamp, sets and miniature sheets in the 4/2019 issue are displayed on a free A5 backing card and protected with cellophane wrapping.	A282 150	A282 550	13.45
Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 4/2019			
The first-day covers with the single stamp, sets and miniature sheets in the 4/2019 issue are combined in one free cover.		A282 580	23.55
2019 year book			
Representing a valuable record of our times, the year book presents all Swiss stamps and first-day cancellations for 2019, along with an exclusive black print, on over 100 pages in four languages (de/fr/it/en).	A283 830	A283 831	69.00
2019 year set			
All Swiss stamps for 2019, clearly laid out on four handy display cards with transparent protective sleeve.	A284 320	A284 820	60.80
2019 year set with first-day covers (FDC)			
All the year's first-day covers – including the single stamps, sets or miniature sheets with the respective first-day cancellations.		A284 530	94.20

2020 stamp catalogues	Item no.	Price in CHF
Zumstein		
Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva 2020, German/French	A273 725	35.00
Swiss stamp catalogue		
Switzerland 2020, German/French	A273 787	27.00
The stamp catalogues can be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only.		

Official special edition products from the Federal Mint Swissmint

2019 Christmas coin set

- ✓ with a beautiful Christmas angel medal
- ✓ contains all 2019 circulation coins
- ✓ exquisite minting craftsmanship
- ✓ in a colour illustrated cardboard slipcase
- ✓ for collecting, giving and making someone happy

CHF 40.00

2019 Baby coin set

- ✓ with a fun bear medal
- ✓ contains all 2019 circulation coins
- ✓ to remember a child's birth year
- ✓ in a colour illustrated cardboard slipcase
- ✓ for collecting, giving and making someone happy

CHF 40.00

2019 Birthday coin set

- ✓ with an attractive birthday cake medal
- ✓ contains all 2019 circulation coins
- ✓ a brilliant idea for a birthday present
- ✓ in a colour illustrated cardboard slipcase
- ✓ for collecting, giving and making someone happy

CHF 40.00

Delivery free of charge to addresses in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Prices are subject to change. While stocks last.

Available at www.swissmintshop.ch or telephone +41 58 4 800 800

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